

The Temptation of Ernie Frog

When Ernie Frog drifted into the city he was amazed. Where Ernie came from there were no stores.

Ernie wanted the things in the stores, but he didn't know he had to buy them. He was picked up three times for shoplifting, but as soon as they talked to him they knew he was an asshole and were satisfied with just getting him to realize he had to pay for things in stores.

Ernie wandered sadly, wanting things but not able to buy. Suddenly a voice:

"Hello, Ernie!"

"Who said that?" he asked in alarm.

"Me, Ernie, your brain."

"You never spoke to me before! Where are you?"

"I'm in your head, Ernie."

"Oh."

"Take what you want, Ernie."

"But they said I couldn't!"

"Go on, Ernie."

"No! I dassn't!"

"Steal something nice, Ernie."

"What should I steal?"

"Steal that toaster, Ernie."

"But I was told not to take things!"

"I say it's all right, Ernie."

"But...."

"Go on, Ernie."

"But...."

"Go on, Ernie."

So Ernie stole a toaster from a store and ran all the way home.

"Hello, Ernie!" came a voice.

"Who are you?" asked Ernie in alarm.

"I'm your brain, Ernie."

"What do you want?"

"Make me some toast."

The Big Immense Pig

Who could but wonder at the magical giant pig that came down our street last week? This large pig of enormous proteins came along amid the laffing and gladdis of child-rums and housewharves. All the childring danced around, labbing, shrouding, and song and danced around the magical giant pig. The burgomouser gave this huge animarl a great award to the applesauce of all and Sunday who turned out for the apparents of our wondrous piggie. The pig made for great Merrymount, but what a mess it made of our street!

-- John Currier

Gloucester, MA

the woman bent-at knee

she lit three pans upon the stove,
she stirred them with three spoons,
she poured three kinds of catfood
in three deep green bowls.

and then she did not cut her throat,
she did not cut her wrists,
she did not cut red tape
or even her astrologer's appointment.

no, not she,
the woman bent-at-knee.